**Fall in Empires**

**China**

* Started to decline in 100C.E.
* Suffered serious internal problems
* Confucians intellectual activity, less creative
* Centralized government declined in control, bureaucrats grew more corrupt, local landlords took up most of the slack. Political ineffectiveness
* Free peasants were taxed long and heavily, became burdened with new taxes and demands of service for the same landlords. They (farmers) became day laborers on large estates. For service, some even had to sell their children.
* Daoism gained new appeal in 184 CE, shifting popular religion, adding healing practices/magic to earlier philosophical beliefs. Yellow Turbans (leaders of Daoism) attacked the emperor’s weakness and the self-indulgence current bureaucracy. Government morality decline
* Imperial courts plunged into civil war
* Constant invasions
* Spread of devastating new epidemics
* Cultural unity was threaten by the spread of Buddhism
* Later dynasties existed, Sui and Tang, in 20 CE dynasties collapse
* Values and ideas of government, culture, philosophies like Confucian exist/ influence modern day

**India**

* Huns from central Asia overthrew the Gupta Empire, affecting northern portions of India/ destroying. Early as 500CE.
* Politically dissolved fragmentation, the Gupta emperors declined in control of local princes.
* Several centuries there was no native ruler but rather regional princes, called the **Rajpu**. They controlled small states and emphasized military prowess.
* Buddhism declined further. Hinduism further spread to people, Hun princes. Popularized
* The use of Sanskrit declined. Many Indian abandoned Hinduism, distracting from further achievements in science and mathematics.
* Islam spread to India; it affected India’s international economics. Arabs took control of trade over India
* Commercial dynamism declined.
* Classical traditions like Hinduism and the caste system still exist

**Rome**

* Started to decline 180 CE
* Population declined, due the spread of diseases/ epidemics. It worsened economic life.
* Arond180 CE, Political confusion lead to a series of weak emperor and many arguments about the succession of the throne. Leaders grow corrupt
* Difficulties in having/ making effective armies
* Tax collection caused Roman resident have hard times
* Hired Germanic soldier to guard its frontiers, demands of state budget caused a decline in production cut into tax revenues.
* Decline in mechanistic spiral, culture life declined.
* Upper classes became more pleasure-seeking, turning away from political devotion and economic vigor. ( Republic)
* Culture declined, literature of new knowledge or artistic styles was not generated
* Moral declined, Upper classes no longer produced offspring (seemed incompatible)
* Life was more dangerous and economic survival more precarious after the decline of decentralized/ imperial rule.
* Estate gave landlord local stability and great political power. Estates tried to be self-sufficient making trade and production decline and smaller cities sizes.
* In 400s CE there were Germanic invasions ended the political structure
* Rome’s fall spilt the unity of Mediterranean lands, divided into three sections/ distinct civilizations.
* Byzantine Empire and Emperor Justinian was a product/ similar to late imperial Rome, controlling southeast Europe and northern Middle East. (Constantine and Constantinople) Spread Christianity with theologians like Augustine.
* Parthian Empire later replaced by the Sassanid in 227 CE controlled northern Middle East and northwestern India. They created “a bridge of” goods and artistic and literary styles between the Mediterranean and East.